

PRESS RELEASE



The Cleveland Museum of Art

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EIGHTEENTH CENTURY ENGLISH ART ON VIEW AT THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART

A small exhibition of English art, mainly of the eighteenth century, is on view at The Cleveland Museum of Art through November 1, 1981. Henry Hawley, chief curator of the Museum's department of later Western art, selected works from the permanent collection of the Museum: decorative objects in ceramic, silver, and silver gilt; oil portraits; engravings; and several textiles.

One of the silver pieces of major importance is a large two-handled silver-gilt covered cup made in London by the firm of Peter and Ann Bateman in 1792 or 1793. Both the dominant decorative motifs--rosettes, laurel leaves, pine cone finial--and the form of the body, foot, and handles are based on Robert Adam's principles of classical design (see photo attached). The cup is engraved with the coat-of-arms of the second Earl of Grosvenor and was probably made to commemorate the racing accomplishments of Grosvenor stable.

A range of styles and techniques from some of the major English ceramic factories is represented in the exhibition, including a salt-glazed Staffordshire plate with a transfer print decoration of a girl and boy blowing bubbles; a cream-ware Wedgwood bowl with pierced openwork; Derby, Chelsea, and Longton Hall figurines; a Bow plate with floral decoration imitating Chinese porcelain; and a Worcester punch bowl with an elegant blue background highlighting panels reserved in white with gaily colored exotic birds.

English Art is on view in Gallery A across from the Museum's restaurant. The Cleveland Museum of Art is closed on Mondays, open all other days free of charge. Hours are Tuesdays from 10 to 6, Wednesdays from 10 to 10, Thursdays from 10 to 6, Fridays from 10 to 6, Saturdays from 10 to 5, and Sundays from 1 to 6.